

Grade 1 Theatre Lesson #6

Tableau Telling Stories with Pictures

Lesson-at-a-Glance

Warm Up

Review tableau. Demonstrate for students several different tableau and have them guess who you are and what clues are given in body and face.

Modeling

As a group, ask the students to recreate two or three of the tableaux. In pairs and smaller groups ask students to recreate scenes with tableau. Discuss the clues in body and face for the tableau.

Guided Practice

In small groups, students create tableau for a scene showing plot (beginning, middle and end), setting and characters.

Debrief

Use the checklist to assess student ability to create tableau alone and in groups. Share as a group how an actor uses the body and face in tableau.

Extension

- Read a favorite book and look closely at the pictures. Describe the action that is taking place. Choose two pictures to create a tableau with peers.
- Read a story and identify three or more important events. Discuss what is happening in the story and create tableau for each event.

Materials

Character and Scene Cards and Activity Pictures (included with lesson)

Assessment

Discussion, Performance, Q&A, Tableau Assessment

ELA Standards Addressed

Reading Comprehension: 2.2 Respond to who, what, when, where, and how questions.

Literary Response and Analysis: 3.1 Identify and describe the elements of plot, setting, and character(s) in a story, as well as the story's beginning, middle, and end.

THEATRE – GRADE 1

TABLEAU

Telling Stories with Pictures Lesson 6

CONTENT STANDARDS

2.1 Demonstrate skills in pantomime, tableau, and improvisation.

5.2 Demonstrate the ability to work cooperatively in presenting a tableau, an improvisation, or a pantomime.

TOPICAL QUESTIONS

- How do I recreate an image with tableau?
- How do I cooperate with a group to create a three-part story with tableau?

OBJECTIVES & STUDENT OUTCOMES

- Students will work alone and in groups to create group stage pictures (*tableaux*).
- Students will work cooperatively to tell a story through tableaux.

ASSESSMENT (Various strategies to evaluate effectiveness of instruction and student learning)

- **Feedback for Teacher**
 - Tableau Checklist (included)
 - Student response to inquiry
- **Feedback for Student**
 - Teacher feedback
 - Tableau Checklist

WORDS TO KNOW

- **tableau:** group stage pictures or characters frozen in a moment in time. The plural is *tableaux*.
- **improvisation:** A spontaneous style of theatre in which scenes are created without advance rehearsing or scripting.
- **gesture:** expressive movement of the body or limbs
- **actor:** a person, male or female, who performs a role in a play or an entertainment
- **plot:** structure of a play, including the beginning, middle and end

MATERIALS

- Pictures of characters, scenes and people engaged in activity (included)
- Picture books, posters, paintings, etc.

RESOURCES

- SDUSD VAPA Core Learnings

WARM UP (*Engage students, access prior learning, review, hook or activity to focus the student for learning*)

- Review tableau.
- Demonstrate for students several different tableau: e.g., making a phone call while sitting in a chair, reading a book while reclining, assuming the stance of a batter at the plate, pose like a proud superhero or a horrible ogre, running, sleeping, etc. Remember appropriate facial expressions.

- Ask students to watch carefully in silence while you perform a tableau.
- After you finish ask the students what action you were doing. Discuss what were the clues that gave the character and action away. "What did I do with my body and face to make you think I was a _____?"

MODELING (*Presentation of new material, demonstration of the process, direct instruction*)

- Tell students they are going to create frozen pictures (tableaux) with their bodies.
- As a group, ask the students to re-create two or three of the tableaux you did in the warm-up or consider:
 - sleeping lying down or sitting at your desk
 - making a telephone call and freezing while talking (mouth should be open)
 - cheering at a sporting event
 - being a sports figure, dancer or gymnast frozen in an action of that sport or activity
 - stand at attention and salute
 - be a shy person
- Encourage students to use facial expressions that are appropriate for the characters they are choosing.
- Tell students, "We are going to make *tableau* that will show several characters in a particular setting."
- Arrange students in small groups. Select one group and give a prompt, e.g., baseball game.
- Give the actors a little time to discuss how to create the tableau for a baseball game. Coach as necessary. The rest of the class observes the process.
- After the group has demonstrated the tableau, discuss what the actors did to make the characters or setting believable by asking the following questions:
 - "How did the tableau show frozen action?"
 - "What was the body doing?"
 - "What were the facial expressions like?"
 - "What is the character(s) feeling?"

GUIDED PRACTICE (*Application of knowledge, problem solving, corrective feedback*)

Part 1

- Clip picture cards (included in this lesson), place picture cards on overhead, or collect pictures from a book, magazines, photographs, paintings or posters, etc.
- One at a time, show pictures and have the students recreate the picture.
 - Individual photos can be recreated as a whole group.
 - If several people are in the picture, select the same number of students and recreate the tableau while the rest of the class observes.
- Assist students with getting into a pose that imitates what is happening in the picture.
- Once students are in position, say **freeze**. Students are to remain frozen for three seconds.
- Ask the following questions:
 - "If this tableau was part of a story what do you think the story was about?"
 - "If another tableau was to follow this one, what would it look like?"
 - "How would the characters show this in tableau?"

Part 2

- Give students a scenario with four characters and create a simple story in three parts (plot), show setting and characters using tableau. Use the idea below or create a scenario of your own.
- The same four students can do the three tableaux **OR** you can use a different group of four students for each of the following tableaux:
 - Scene 1: a baseball game with a person pitching a ball, a batter waiting for the pitch, the umpire and the catcher.
 - Scene 2: The umpire is standing, the catcher is holding his hand above his eyes looking out, the batter is running and the pitcher is looking out too.

- Scene 3: the crowd is cheering (ask four students to show jumping and cheering).
- Ask the following questions:
 - "What happened in this story?"
 - "What are the beginning, the middle and end?"
- Create another scenario of your own or have the students create a simple story with tableaux. Students can work in pairs or smaller groups.

DEBRIEF AND EVALUATE *(Identify problems encountered, ask and answer questions, discuss solutions and learning that took place. Did students meet expected outcomes?)*

- Use checklist for assessing student's ability to create tableau individually and in groups.
- Ask the following questions:
 - "What is tableau?"
 - "What does an actor have to do with his/her body and face to create a stage picture?"
 - "What makes the picture easily understood?" (You may want to talk a little about exaggeration here).
 - "What was challenging about creating tableaux with a group?"
 - "How can you tell a story using only tableaux?"

EXTENSION *(Expectations created by the teacher that encourages students to participate in further research, make connections and apply understanding and skills previously learned to personal experiences.)*

- Read a favorite book and look closely at the pictures. Describe the action that is taking place. Choose two pictures to create a tableau with peers.
- Read a story and identify three or more important events. Discuss what is happening in the story and create tableau for each event.

Assessment - Tableau

[illegible]

Character Card Illustrations



King



Queen



Karate Expert



Movie Star



Secret Agent



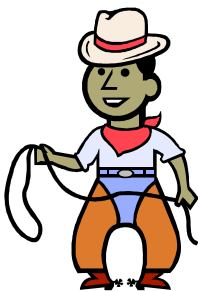
Super Hero



Baby



Clown



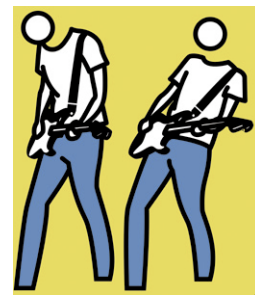
Cowboy



Police Officer



Fire Fighter



Rock Star



Baseball Player



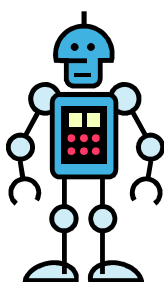
Soccer Player



Football Player



Villain



Robot
Walker



Dancer



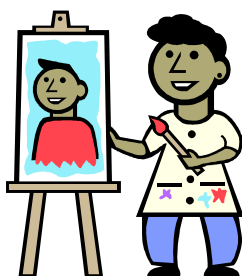
Spaceman



Tightrope



Doctor



Artist



Soldier



Fisherman

Setting Illustrations



Beach



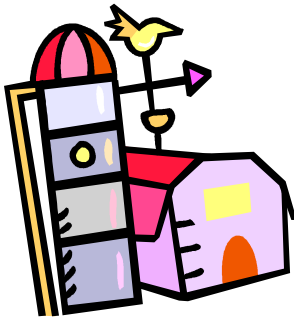
Grocery Store



Kitchen



Amusement Park



Farm



Circus



Sports Event



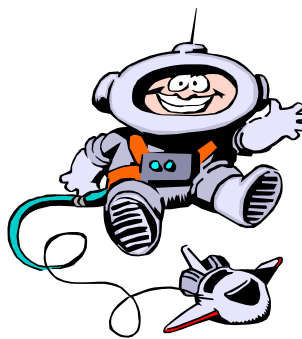
Library



Classroom



Playground



Outer Space



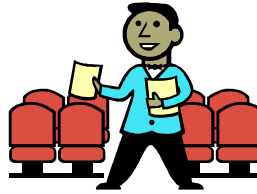
The Mall



Airplane



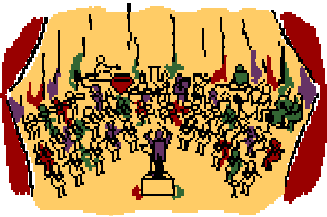
Church



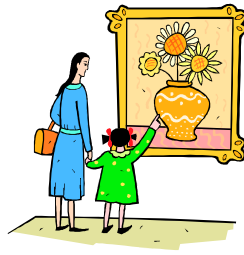
Theatre



Mountains - Cabin



Symphony Concert



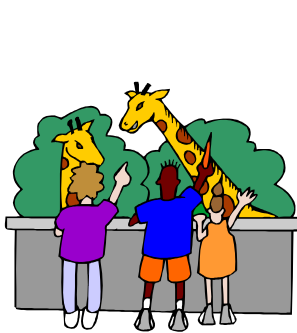
Museum



Camping



Ski Slope



Zoo



Haunted House



Boat



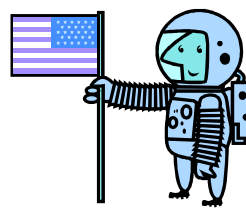
Race Track



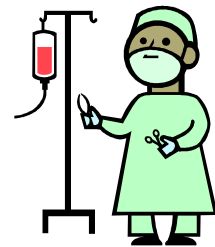
Birthday Party



Swimming Pool



The Moon



Hospital

Action Pictures



<http://www.neilpeterson.com/index.php/2008/12/uncommon-success-in-sports-a-surprising-gift-from-adhd/>



http://www.openoceansurfing.com/assets/kids_surfing_lessons_01.jpg



<http://www.corbisimages.com/images/JM001016.jpg?size=67&uid=FEE7ED37-5DCE-489E-AD69-0D31108B1939>



http://www2.cityofarkadelphia.com:8080/CityOfArkadelphia/departments-1/fire-department-1/100_0079.jpg/image_preview



http://photos.igougo.com/images/p191691-Ocho_Rios-Children_playing_on_the_beach.jpg



bikes<http://www.pembertonclassic.org.au/images/kids.jpg>



http://www.youthsportsny.org/images/safe_at_second.jpg



video games <http://www.bruceongames.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/04/children-video-game.jpg>